

Welcome to the National Weather Service, Seattle, WA



We are located at 7600 Sand Point Way NE, Seattle, WA 98115

Please enter our Virtual Tour for a sneak peak of what we do.

National Weather Service Mission

Provide Weather, Hydrologic, and Climate Forecasts and Warnings for the United States, its Territories, Adjacent Waters and Ocean Areas, for the **Protection of Life and Property** and **Enhancement of the National Economy**.

Welcome to the National Weather Service



The tour begins with checking in at Building #1. Due to heightened security, all visitors must check in and be escorted back to our office.

Welcome to the National Weather Service



As you enter the building The National Weather Service is located at the east end of the building. We are co-located with other agencies, including the National Marine Fisheries Services, NOAA's Western Finance Branch and Work Force Management. The lobby pictured here is where the tour begins....

Welcome to the National Weather Service



A long walk down the east end hallway brings you to the entrance to our office space.

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Our Administrative Support Assistant is usually the first person to greet you and is responsible for the travel, timekeeping, budget, procurement, bills and any other administrative needs of the staff.

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The Meteorologist in Charge (MIC) oversees the operations of the entire forecast office. The MIC is also a meteorologist and works forecast shifts when needed. Our forecast office has 19 college degreed meteorologist.

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Working next to the MIC is our Warning Coordination Meteorologist (WCM), he is a key liaison for the office as well as a meteorologist. He also manages the area Skywarn Spotter Program. The NWS Partners with area emergency management communities (public and private), aviation community, land management/fire weather community, water resource community and many more.

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With a capacity of 25 people, our conference room serves as a focal point for local, regional and media meetings informing the public of impending weather which could impact the local community.

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This is our main operations floor where our staff of meteorologist work 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year. Our County Warning Area spans 14 counties across Western Washington and 60 miles off the coast. During the course of normal operations, two or three forecasters are on shift.

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With-in our main operations area we have five computer workstations. They are used to issue a number of products and to assist customers such as boaters, aviators, recreationalist and everyday people. When significant events occur, such as flooding, snow, high wind or severe weather, four or five forecasters will be on staff at all times.

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At the center of our operations is the AWIPS system. The Advanced Weather Interactive Processing System is a graphical tool containing hundreds of fields of meteorological data the forecasters can utilize to help produce forecast products for the public.

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Radar Terminal

NOAA Weather Radio



One of the most important tools is the WSR-88D Doppler Radar. We have two radars, one on Camano Island the other at Langley Hill on the coast. We also operate the NOAA Weather Radio All Hazards network. When an immediate life threatening event is imminent, we'll activate the Emergency Alert System (EAS.) With 7 NOAA Weather Radio stations in Western Washington, we're able to disseminate vital weather data quickly and reach most of the public.

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Our Information Technology Officer, ITO (pictured left) is responsible for ensuring computers and related software are in working order. The OPL (pictured right) manages the Cooperative Observing Program, a community of weather observing volunteers that serve as the backbone of the nations climate records.

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The Electronics Technicians take care of the WSR-88D radar, Automated Surface Observation Systems (ASOS), Upper Air equipment, NOAA All Hazards Radio and other various electronics equipment in the office and out in the field.

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The Northwest Weather and Avalanche Center (NWAC) is co-located here at our office. They are part of the U.S. Forest Service and promote safety by helping reduce the impacts of avalanches and adverse mountain weather on recreation, industry and transportation in Washington, and northern Oregon.

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Thanks for taking a tour of our facility. We hope you enjoyed your visit! Have a great day!